



U.S. Department of Justice

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ROCKFORD MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO BANK ROBBERY OF U.S. BANK IN FREEPORT

ROCKFORD – PATRICK J. FITZGERALD, United States Attorney for the Northern District of Illinois; ROBERT D. GRANT, Special Agent-In-Charge of the Chicago Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation; and JERRY WHITMORE, Chief of the Freeport Police Department, today made the following announcement:

LEON L. TILLMON, 38 (DOB: 2/17/1967), formerly of 614 Overland Trail, Rockford, Illinois, pled guilty today in federal court in Rockford to the robbery of U.S. Bank, 1550 West Galena Avenue, Freeport, Illinois, on October 28, 2004.

In pleading guilty, Tillmon admitted that on the morning of October 28, 2004, he walked into the U.S. Bank, located at 1550 West Galena Avenue, in Freeport, and told a bank teller that it was a robbery and to give him money. As the teller placed money on the counter, Tillmon told her not to think about pushing the alarm button or that he would kill her. Tillmon also admitted that he told the teller he had a gun and that he implied that he had a gun inside his sweatshirt pocket. Tillmon took the money from the counter and fled from the bank.

Tillmon was arrested by Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation on November 9, 2004. He has been held in custody since his arrest.

Sentencing for Tillmon will be conducted on Thursday, September 8, 2005, at 9:00 a.m. Tillmon faces a possible maximum penalty of up to 20 years in prison, a \$250,000 fine, a period of supervised release of 3 to 5 years following imprisonment, and any restitution ordered by the court. The actual sentence will be determined by the United States District Court, guided by the United States Sentencing Guidelines.

The case was investigated by Rockford Office of the FBI and the Freeport Police Department with the assistance of the Rockford Police Department. The case is being prosecuted in federal court by Assistant United States Attorney Joseph C. Pedersen.

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